

117TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

**S.** \_\_\_\_\_

To require verification of the personal and biometric information of all individuals evacuated from Afghanistan and in-person interviews of such individuals, prohibit Afghan evacuees who do not provide such information or submit to such interviews from receiving Federal assistance, and require the declassification of intelligence related to the withdrawal of the United States Armed Forces from Afghanistan.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

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Mr. HAWLEY introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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**A BILL**

To require verification of the personal and biometric information of all individuals evacuated from Afghanistan and in-person interviews of such individuals, prohibit Afghan evacuees who do not provide such information or submit to such interviews from receiving Federal assistance, and require the declassification of intelligence related to the withdrawal of the United States Armed Forces from Afghanistan.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Afghanistan Vetting  
3 and Accountability Act of 2022”.

4 **SEC. 2. VERIFICATION AND VETTING REQUIREMENTS WITH**  
5 **RESPECT TO INDIVIDUALS EVACUATED**  
6 **FROM AFGHANISTAN.**

7 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

8 (1) FEDERAL MEANS-TESTED PUBLIC BEN-  
9 EFIT.—The term “Federal means-tested public ben-  
10 efit” means a Federal means-tested public benefit  
11 within the meaning of section 403 of the Personal  
12 Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation  
13 Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1613).

14 (2) INDIVIDUAL EVACUATED FROM AFGHANI-  
15 STAN.—The term “individual evacuated from Af-  
16 ghanistan”—

17 (A) means any individual, other than a  
18 United States citizen or a member of the  
19 United States Armed Forces, conveyed out of  
20 Afghanistan into the United States in coordina-  
21 tion with the Government of the United States  
22 during the period beginning on January 20,  
23 2021, and ending on January 20, 2022; and

24 (B) includes each individual, other than a  
25 United States citizen or a member of the  
26 United States Armed Forces, evacuated from

1           Afghanistan as part of Operation Allies Wel-  
2           come.

3           (3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means  
4           the Secretary of Homeland Security.

5           (4) UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION.—The  
6           term “unemployment compensation” has the mean-  
7           ing given the term in section 85(b) of the Internal  
8           Revenue Code of 1986.

9           (b) VERIFICATION AND VETTING REQUIREMENTS.—

10           (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall verify  
11           the personal and biometric information and conduct  
12           in-person vetting of each individual evacuated from  
13           Afghanistan.

14           (2) VETTING DATABASE.—The Secretary shall  
15           develop and maintain a database that contains, for  
16           each individual evacuated from Afghanistan, the fol-  
17           lowing:

18                   (A) Personal information, including name  
19                   and date of birth.

20                   (B) Biometric information.

21                   (C) Any criminal record since the date on  
22                   which the individual entered the United States.

23                   (D) Any application for, or receipt of, un-  
24                   employment compensation or a Federal means-  
25                   tested public benefit.



1 (iv) a description of any arrest or  
2 criminal record for conduct that occurred  
3 in the United States.

4 (C) The estimated number of days remain-  
5 ing until the Secretary completes the  
6 verification and vetting of each individual evac-  
7 uated from Afghanistan as required by sub-  
8 section (b)(1).

9 (d) CERTIFICATION.—Not later than 30 days after  
10 the date on which the Secretary completes the verification  
11 and vetting required by subsection (b)(1), the Secretary  
12 shall submit to Congress a certification that such  
13 verification and vetting has been completed.

14 (e) GAO AUDITS AND REPORTS.—

15 (1) AUDITS.—The Comptroller General of the  
16 United States shall conduct an audit and investiga-  
17 tion with respect to the compliance of the Secretary  
18 with this Act—

19 (A) not later than 2 years after the date  
20 of the enactment of this Act; and

21 (B) not later than 1 year after the date on  
22 which the Secretary makes the certification  
23 under subsection (d).

24 (2) REPORTS.—Not later than 30 days after  
25 the completion of each audit and investigation re-

1       quired by paragraph (1), the Comptroller General  
2       shall submit to Congress a report on the results of  
3       the audit and investigation.

4       (f) RESTRICTION ON FEDERAL ASSISTANCE.—An in-  
5       dividual evacuated from Afghanistan who has not provided  
6       personal information and biometric information to the  
7       Secretary, and undergone in-person vetting, shall not be  
8       eligible to receive unemployment compensation or any  
9       Federal means-tested public benefit.

10   **SEC. 3. DECLASSIFICATION OF INFORMATION RELATED TO**  
11                           **THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE UNITED STATES**  
12                           **ARMED FORCES FROM AFGHANISTAN.**

13       Not later than 90 days after the date of the enact-  
14       ment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence  
15       shall—

16               (1) declassify all intelligence products related to  
17       the withdrawal of the United States Armed Forces  
18       from Afghanistan, including as relate to—

19                       (A) anticipated timelines for a Taliban  
20       takeover of Afghanistan, especially as the  
21       Taliban seized control of additional districts  
22       and provinces, often without fighting, in early  
23       to mid 2021;

24                       (B) the ability of the Afghan National De-  
25       fense and Security Forces to prevent a Taliban

1 takeover of Afghanistan after the withdrawal of  
2 American forces and associated combat,  
3 logistical, and other support;

4 (C) the willingness of then-President of the  
5 Islamic Republic of Afghanistan Ashraf Ghani  
6 and other Afghan political leaders to remain in  
7 Afghanistan as the military situation deterio-  
8 rated, including any plans such leaders may  
9 have made to escape Afghanistan as the  
10 Taliban advanced;

11 (D) threats to United States forces, dip-  
12 lomats, or citizens in Kabul or other parts of  
13 Afghanistan over the course of the withdrawal,  
14 including the noncombatant evacuation oper-  
15 ation in August 2021;

16 (E) any other intelligence that may have  
17 informed decisions by the United States Gov-  
18 ernment regarding the timeline for the with-  
19 drawal of its forces, moving of its embassy in  
20 Kabul, initiation of a noncombatant evacuation  
21 operation, force requirements for a noncombat-  
22 ant evacuation operation, or other related mat-  
23 ters; and

24 (F) any dissenting views shared in writing  
25 or other formats, including verbally, by United

1 States military commanders, diplomats, or  
2 other government officials regarding the topics  
3 described in subparagraphs (A) through (E);  
4 and

5 (2) submit to Congress an unclassified report  
6 that contains—

7 (A) all the information described under  
8 paragraph (1); and

9 (B) only such redactions as the Director  
10 determines necessary to protect sources and  
11 methods.